

Message Text

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13

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /067 W

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R 210759Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2527

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L OUAGADOUGOU 3303

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, UV

SUBJ: REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMISSION

REF: OUAGADOUGOU 3118

1. EMBASSY HAS OBTAINED COPY OF REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMISSION WHICH WAS SUBMITTED TO PRESIDENT LAMIZANA ON OCTOBER 13. THE REPORT IS IN FIVE PARTS: A) A DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON POLITICAL, ADMINISTRATIVE, AND INSTITUTIONAL PROBLEMS; B) A DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, AND CULTURAL PROBLEMS; C) A DRAFT CONSTITUTION; D) RECOMMENDATIONS ON FUTURE ELECTORAL LAW; AND E) A PROPOSED CALENDAR FOR RETURN TO CONSTITUTIONAL RULE.

2. CONTRARY TO LAST SENTENCE PARA 2 REFTL, THE NEW DRAFT CONSTITUTION MAKES NO MENTION OF DENIAL OF CIVIC AND POLITICAL RIGHTS TO CERTAIN FORMER POLITICIANS. THIS MUST HAVE BEEN ELIMINATED AT THE LAST MINUTE.

3. THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS IS SCHEDULED TO DISCUSS THE REPORT
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ON OCTOBER 25. THE INDEPENDENT DAILY " L'OBSERVATEUR" BEGAN

PUBLISHING PARTS OF THE REPORT ON OCTOBER 20, INCLUDING THE
PROPOSED CALENDAR WHICH IS AS FOLLOWS:
OCTOBER-NOVEMBER 1976: APPOINTMENT OF NEW GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL
UNITY.
DECEMBER 1976: CAMPAIGN OF INFORMATION SO THAT VOLTAN PEOPLE WILL
UNDERSTAND WHAT CHANGES ARE BEING PROPOSED.
DECEMBER-JANUARY 1977: ORGANIZATION OF POLITICAL PARTIES.
FEBRUARY 1977: OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF LIST OF POLITICAL PARTIES.
FEBRUARY 1977: CAMPAIGN PREPARATORY TO REFERENDUM
FIRST WEEK OF MARCH 1977: NATIONAL REFERENDUM ON NEW
CONSTITUTION

SECOND WEEK OF MARCH 1977: PROCLAMATION OF NEW CONSTITUTION AND
NEW ELECTORAL LAWS
END OF MARCH 1977: ANNOUNCEMENT OF CANDIDACIES FOR NATIONAL
ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS.
FIRST WEEK OF APRIL 1977: OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF CANDIDACIES.
APRIL 1977: ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN FOR NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND PRESIDENCY
SECOND WEEK OF MAY 1977: ELECTION OF DEPUTIES TO NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
THIRD WEEK OF MAY 1977: PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION
FIRST WEEK OF JUNE 1977: PRESIDENTIAL RUN-OFF ELECTION IF
REQUIRED.
END OF JUNE 1977: INAUGURATION OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
'76 1977: INAUGURATION OF PRESIDENT. APPOINTMENT OF PRIME
MINISTER AND FORMATION OF NEW GOVERNMENT.

COMMENT:

4. IT IS NOT CLEAR WHETHER PUBLICATION IN THE PRESS OF
PARTS OF SPECIAL COMMISSION'S REPORT WAS AUTHORIZED OR WHETHER
IT WAS LEAKED BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION. IT WOULD SEEM
UNUSUAL FOR PRESIDENT LAMIZANA TO AUTHORIZE THE REPORT'S
PUBLICATION BEFORE IT HAS BEEN DISCUSSED BY THE COUNCIL OF
MINISTERS. ON OTHER HAND, DOZENS OF COPIES OF THE REPORT ARE
NOW CIRCULATING IN OUAGADOUGOU SO THAT DISCLOSURE OF ITS CONTENTS
IN THE PRESS IS NOT LIKELY TO DO MUCH ADDITIONAL HARM.
GRAHAM

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, REORGANIZATIONS, FORM OF GOVERNMENT, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 OCT 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976OUAGAD03303
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760394-0799
From: OUAGADOUGOU
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761029/aaaaayhi.tel
Line Count: 96
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 OUAGADOUGOU 3118
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: BoyleJA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 JUN 2004 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <13 AUG 2004 by BoyleJA>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMISSION
TAGS: PINT, UV
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006